

News Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 27, 2012



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Two Capital District Historic Parks Unite to Host Annual Artisan Shopping Weekend!

***Sutter's Fort & State Indian Museum Present
Trader's Faire and Indian Arts & Crafts Market -- April 21-22***

SACRAMENTO, Calif. – Ready, set, shop! Sutter's Fort State Historic Park (SHP) and the State Indian Museum are teaming up to host their annual spring time artisan shopping events on the same weekend -- April 21 & 22. Sutter's Fort SHP will host its popular "Trader's Faire - California's First Mall" while the State Indian Museum (located on the northern grounds of Sutter's Fort) will present its annual spring time Indian Arts & Crafts Market, both open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day. While the available wares are different at each location and true to their respective histories, both offer unique, hand-crafted items that make for treasured gifts and collectibles.

Entertaining live music ranging from Californio (rich in string instruments including fiddle, guitar, and mandolin) and a Gold Rush era "jug band" (with jaw harps, washboard, spoons, banjo, and washtub string base) will greet visitors to Sutter's Fort throughout the weekend. Fort guests will also enjoy a bustling environment of cooking demonstrations in the historic kitchen and outdoor fire pit and artisans creating pioneer goods for sale such as clothing, housewares, toys, beads and knives. In addition, a popular line of artisan products made on-site at the Fort are also available and include dipped candles, rag rugs and corn husk dolls. Visitors to Sutter's Fort SHP will have the opportunity to make their own crafts, haggle with traders, make dolls, hammer square nails while shopping for gifts and crafts. And, at the adjacent State Indian Museum, shoppers can peruse hand-crafted custom beaded jewelry, beautiful Native American artwork, intricately woven baskets, unique gourds, genuine soapstone and elk horn carvings, ceremonial drums and much more.

The special event "combo" ticket prices are \$8 for adults and \$6 for youths ages 6-17 (children five and under are free) and include entrance into both the Traders' Faire and the Indian Arts & Crafts Market. Visitors are encouraged to support and learn from artisan crafters while also exploring all the two historic parks have to offer.

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For More, Visit www.parks.ca.gov/CapitalDistrict

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And, given Earth Day is Sunday, April 22, local residents are encouraged to celebrate by visiting and/or supporting a California State Park such as Sutter's Fort SHP or the State Indian Museum!

*On Friday, April 20, the Trader's Faire will be open at Sutter's Fort SHP with a focus on education. Special event cost for that one-day-only is \$7 for adults; \$5 for youth (free for children five and under) and does not include entrance to the State Indian Museum.

About Sutter's Fort State Historic Park

Sutter's Fort State Historic Park is operated by California State Parks with financial assistance from the nonprofit Friends of Sutter's Fort. As of January 1, 2012, Sutter's Fort State Historic Park is open Tuesdays through Sundays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Located in midtown Sacramento on L Street between 26th and 28th Streets, the Fort offers monthly "Hands on History" activities and special events throughout the year. Established in 1839 by Swiss immigrant John Augustus Sutter, Sutter's Fort was at the center of a flourishing agricultural empire named New Helvetia (New Switzerland.) This empire established Sacramento's earliest settlement and the first European settlement in California's Central Valley. For more information, call (916) 445-4422 or visit www.suttersfort.org

About the State Indian Museum

The State Indian Museum is operated by California State Parks and supported by the California Indian Heritage Foundation. As of January 1, 2012, the Museum is open Wednesdays through Sundays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. (except Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day) for self-guided tours and school group visits. The museum is located in midtown Sacramento at 2618 K Street on the grounds of Sutter's Fort State Historic Park. Current exhibits include traditional basketry, beadwork, ceremonial regalia and hunting & fishing items associated with many of the tribes of California, as well as contemporary artwork. For more information, please call (916) 324-0971 or visit www.parks.ca.gov/indianmuseum